

Exhibit C

Second College Edition

**The
American Heritage
Dictionary**

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be denotes an entity that is also under the influence of some other verb or preposition. Shall we say it is *I she loves* or it is *me she loves*? There is no strict rule, but given the natural tendency to use objective forms like *me* rather than nominatives like *I* in undecidable cases, the use of *me* is entirely defensible here. It should also be noted that the use of the nominative following *to be* sounds stilted when the verb has been contracted. Nevertheless, a purist would say *it's I* rather than *it's me*, or *that's they* rather than *that's them*.

Be The symbol for the element beryllium.

be- *pref.* 1. Completely; thoroughly; excessively. Used as an intensive: *bemoan*. 2. On; around; over: *besmear*. 3. Used to form transitive verbs from nouns, adjectives, and intransitive verbs, as: *a. Make; cause to become: besot. b. Affect or provide with: bespangle.* [ME < OE *bi-*.]

beach (*bēch*) *n.* 1. The shore of a body of water, esp. when sandy or pebbly. 2. The sand or pebbles on a shore. —*tr.v.* **beached, beach-ing, beach-es.** To haul or drive ashore. [Orig. unknown.]

beach buggy *n.* A dune buggy.

beach-comber (*bēch'kō'mər*) *n.* 1. One who lives on what can be found on beaches or in wharf areas. 2. A long wave rolling in toward a beach.

beach flea *n.* Any of various small, jumping crustaceans of the family Orchestiidae, living on sandy beaches at or near the tide line.

beach grass *n.* Any grass of the genus *Ammophila*, growing mostly on sandy shores and dunes and having spikelets in long, crowded clusters.

beach-head (*bēch'hēd*) *n.* 1. A position on an enemy shoreline captured by troops in advance of an invading force. 2. A position that opens the way for further development; foothold.

beach pea *n.* Either of two similar North American plants, *Lathyrus maritimus*, of the Atlantic coast, or *L. littoralis*, of the Pacific coast, having purplish flowers and sprawling stems.

beach plum *n.* A seacoast shrub, *Prunus maritima*, of northeastern North America, having white flowers and edible, plumlike fruit.

beach wormwood *n.* A seacoast plant, *Artemisia stelleriana*, native to Asia, covered with dense white down and having small yellow flowers.

beacon (*bē'kən*) *n.* 1. A signal fire, esp. one used to warn of an enemy's approach. 2. A lighthouse or other signaling or guiding device on a coast. 3. A radio transmitter that emits a characteristic signal as a warning or guide. 4. Something that warns or guides. —*tr. & intr.v.* **-coned, -con-ing, -cons.** To provide with or serve as a beacon. [ME *beken* < OE *beacen*.]

bead (*bēd*) *n.* 1. *a.* A small, ball-shaped piece of material pierced for stringing or threading. *b. beads.* A necklace made of such pieces. *c. beads.* A rosary. 2. A small, round object, esp.: *a.* A small drop of moisture. *b.* A bubble of gas in a liquid. *c.* A small knob of metal on the muzzle of a rifle or gun, used for sighting. 3. A strip of material, usually wood, with one molded edge placed flush against the inner part of a door or window frame. —*tr. & intr.v.* **bead-ed, bead-ing, beads.** To furnish with or collect into beads. [ME *bede*, rosary bead < OE *gebed*, prayer.]

bead-ing (*bē'ding*) *n.* 1. Beads or material used for beads. 2. Ornamentation with beads. 3. A narrow, half-rounded molding. 4. A narrow piece of openwork lace through which ribbon may be run.

beadle (*bēdl*) *n.* A minor parish official in an English church whose duties include keeping order and ushering during services. [ME *bedele*, herald < OE *bydel*.]

bead-work (*bēd'wŭrk*) *n.* 1. Decorative work in beads. 2. *Archit.* Beaded molding.

beady (*bē'dē*) *adj.* *-er, -est.* 1. Small, round, and shiny: *beady eyes*. 2. Decorated or covered with beads.

beagle (*bē'gəl*) *n.* One of a breed of small hounds having short legs, drooping ears, and a smooth coat with white, black, and tan markings. [ME *begle*.]

beak (*bēk*) *n.* 1. *a.* The horny, projecting structure forming the mandibles of a bird; bill. *b.* A part or organ resembling this, as in some turtles, insects, or fish. 2. A hard, cone-shaped, or pointed structure or part. 3. *Informal.* A person's nose. [ME *bek* < OFr. *bek* < Lat. *beccus*, of Celt. orig.] —*beaked* (*bēkt*) *adj.*

beaker (*bē'kər*) *n.* 1. A large drinking cup with a wide mouth. 2. An open glass cylinder with a pouring lip, used as a laboratory container. [ME *biker* < ON *bikarr*, prob. < Med. Lat. *bicarius* < Gk. *bikos*, jug.]

beam (*bēm*) *n.* 1. A squared-off log or large, oblong piece of timber, metal, or stone used esp. in construction. 2. The breadth of a ship at the widest point. 3. *Informal.* The width across a person's hips. 4. A steel tube or wooden roller on which the warp is wound in a loom. 5. An oscillating lever connected to an engine piston rod and used to transmit power to the crankshaft. 6. The bar of a balance from which weighing pans are suspended. 7. One of the main stems of a deer's antlers. 8. The main horizontal bar on a plow to which the share, colter, and handles are attached. 9. *a.* A ray of light. *b.* A group of particles traveling together in

close parallel trajectories. 10. A radio beam. —*v.* **beamed, beam-ing, beams.** —*intr.* 1. To radiate light; shine. 2. To smile expansively. —*tr.* To emit or transmit. —*Idiom.* **on the beam.** 1. Following a radio beam, as an aircraft. 2. *Informal.* On the right track; operating correctly. [ME < OE *bēam*.]

beam-ends (*bēm'ēndz*) *pl.n.* The ends of a ship's beams.

beam-ish (*bēm'ish*) *adj.* Beaming; smiling. —*beam'ish-ly* *adv.*

beam-y (*bēm'ē*) *adj.* *-er, -est.* 1. Broad in the beam. 2. Emitting beams, as of light; radiant.

bean (*bēn*) *n.* 1. *a.* Any of several plants of the genus *Phaseolus*, having compound leaves, white or yellow flowers, and seed-bearing pods. *b.* The edible seed or pod of any of these plants. *c.* Any of several related plants bearing similar pods and seeds. *d.* Any of various other seeds or pods resembling beans, as the coffee bean. 2. *Slang.* The head. 3. *beans.* *Slang.* A small amount: *don't know beans about the market.* 4. *Chiefly Brit. Slang.* A fellow; chap. —*tr.v.* **beaned, bean-ing, beans.** *Slang.* To hit on the head with a thrown object, esp. a pitched baseball. —*Idioms.* **full of beans.** Energetic. **spill the beans.** To disclose something that was not meant to be disclosed. [ME *bene* < OE *bēan*.]

bean-bag (*bēn'bāg*) *n.* A small bag filled with dried beans and used for throwing in games.

bean ball *n.* A baseball pitch aimed at the batter's head.

bean blight *n.* A disease of the bean caused by the bacterium *Xanthomonas phaseoli*, which results in yellow-brown blotches on all parts of the plant.

bean caper *n.* A plant of the genus *Zygophyllum*, esp. *Z. fabago*, a shrub of the Middle East, bearing edible buds used as capers.

bean curd *n.* A soft, cheeselike food made from puréed soy beans. [Transl. of Chin. (Mandarin) *dou' fu*: *dou'*, bean + *fu*, curdled.]

bean-ie (*bē'nē*) *n.* A small brimless cap.

bean-o (*bē'nō*) *n., pl. -os.* A form of bingo, esp. one using beans as markers.

bean-pole (*bēn'pōl*) *n.* 1. A thin pole used to support bean vines. 2. *Slang.* A very tall, thin person.

bean sprout *n.* A young, tender shoot of certain beans, such as the soybean, used in cooking.

bean-stalk (*bēn'stōk*) *n.* The stem of a bean plant.

bean tree *n.* Any of various trees, such as the catalpa, that bear beanlike fruit.

bear (*bār*) *v.* **bore** (*bōr, bōr*), **borne** or **born** (*bōrn, bōrn*), **bearing, bears.** —*tr.* 1. To hold up; support. 2. To move while supporting; carry. 3. To carry in the mind; harbor: *bore grudges.* 4. To transmit; relate: *bearing glad tidings.* 5. To have as a visible characteristic: *bore a scar on his arm.* 6. To have as a quality; exhibit. 7. To carry (oneself) in a specified way; conduct: *bore herself with grace.* 8. To be accountable for; assume: *bearing heavy responsibilities.* 9. To have a tolerance for; endure: *couldn't bear his lying.* 10. To be susceptible to; admit of: *The case will bear investigation.* 11. To give birth to. 12. To produce; yield: *plants bearing flowers.* 13. To offer; render: *bearing witness.* 14. To move by steady pressure; push: *boats borne by the tides.* —*intr.* 1. To yield a product; produce. 2. To have relevance; apply: *how the relativity theory bears on the history of science.* 3. To exert pressure. 4. To exert oneself determinedly; forge. 5. To proceed or extend in a specified direction: *bore right at the corner.* —*phrasal verbs.* **bear down.** 1. To overwhelm; vanquish: *bore down all opposition.* 2. To apply maximum effort and concentration: *really bore down and finished the task.* **bear down on.** To affect in a harmful or adverse way: *Financial pressures are bearing down on him.* **bear out.** To prove right or justified; confirm: *results that bear out his claims.* **bear up.** To withstand stress, difficulty, or attrition: *bore up well during the long illness.* **bear with.** To be patient or tolerant with: *Please bear with me while I explain.* —*Idiom.* **bear in mind.** To remember. [ME *beran* < OE *beran*.]

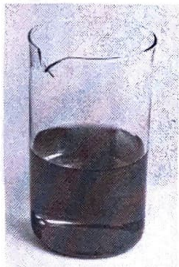
Synonyms: *bear, endure, stand, suffer, abide, tolerate.* These verbs are compared in the sense of withstanding, sustaining, or putting up with. *Bear* pertains broadly to capacity for such an act. *Endure* specifies a continuing capacity to face pain or hardship. The remaining terms are more descriptive of the manner of withstanding or accepting. *Stand* implies resoluteness of spirit. *Suffer* and the less emphatic *abide* suggest resignation and forbearance. *Tolerate*, in its principal application (to something other than pain), connotes reluctant acceptance despite mental reservations.

Usage: In its literal sense the past participle *born* is used only of mammals and only in construction with *to be*: *The baby was born.* (It may also be used figuratively: *A star is born.*) *Borne*, said of the act of birth, refers only to the mother's role, but it can be used actively or passively: *She has borne three children. Three children were borne by her (but born to her).* In all other senses of *bear* the past participle is *borne*: *The soil has borne abundant crops. Such a burden cannot be borne by anyone.*

bear² (*bār*) *n.* 1. *a.* Any of various usually omnivorous mammals of the family Ursidae, having a shaggy coat and a short tail and walking with the entire lower surface of the foot touching the ground. *b.* Any of various animals, such as the



beagle



beaker



bear²

handle hangover

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han-dle (hān'dl) *v.* **-dled, -dling, -dies.** —*tr.* 1. To touch, lift, or hold with the hands. 2. To operate with the hands; manipulate. 3. To deal with or have responsibility for; conduct: *handle corporation law*. 4. *a.* To direct, execute, or dispose of: *handle an investment*. *b.* To manage, administer to, or represent: *handle a boxer*. 5. To confront or cope with: *handle a crowd; handle a problem*. 6. To deal or trade in the purchase or sale of: *the branch office that handles grain exports*. —*intr.* To act or function under operation: *a car that handles well in the snow*. —*n.* 1. A part that is designed to be held or operated with the hand. 2. An opportunity or means for achieving a purpose. 3. *Slang.* A person's name. 4. The total amount of money bet on an event or over a set period of time. [ME *handelen* < OE *handlian*.]

han-dle-bar (hān'dl-bār) *n.* Often **handlebars**. A curved metal steering bar, as on a bicycle.

handlebar mustache *n.* A long, curved mustache resembling a handlebar.

han-dler (hān'dl-er) *n.* 1. One that handles something. 2. *Sports.* *a.* A person who trains or exhibits an animal, such as a dog. *b.* A person who acts as the trainer or second of a boxer.

han-dling (hān'dl-ing) *n.* 1. The act or an instance of one that handles something. 2. The way in which a matter, esp. a delicate one, is taken care of. 3. The way in which a presentation, esp. an artistic or theatrical work, is treated.

hand-made (hānd'mād') *adj.* Made or prepared by hand rather than by machine.

hand-maid (hānd'mād') also **hand-maid-en** (-mād'n) *n.* 1. A female servant or attendant. 2. Something that serves as an aid.

hand-me-down (hānd'mē-doun') *adj.* 1. Handed down to one person after being used and discarded by another. 2. Of inferior quality; shabby. —*n.* Something passed on from one person to another.

hand-off (hānd'ōf', -ōf') *n.* Football. A play in which one player hands the ball to another.

hand organ *n.* A barrel organ operated by turning a crank.

hand-out (hānd'out') *n.* 1. Food, clothing, or money given to a beggar. 2. A folder or leaflet circulated free of charge. 3. A prepared news or publicity release.

hand-pick (hānd'pik') *tr. v.* **-picked, -picking, -picks. 1. To gather or pick by hand. 2. To select personally. —**hand-picked'** *adj.***

hand-print (hānd'print') *n.* An outline or an indentation left by a hand on a surface.

hand puppet *n.* A puppet (sense 2).

hand-rail (hānd'rāl') *n.* A narrow rail to be grasped with the hand for support.

hand-saw (hānd'sō') *n.* A small saw operated by hand.

hand's-breadth or **hand's breadth** (hāndz'brēdth') *n.* Variant of **handbreadth**.

hand-sel (hānd'səl) also **han-sel** (hān'-) *Chiefly Brit.* —*n.* 1. A gift to express good wishes at the beginning of a new year or enterprise. 2. The first money or barter taken in, as by a new business or on the opening day of business, esp. when considered a token of good luck. 3. *a.* A first payment; earnest money. *b.* A specimen or foretaste of what is to come. —*tr. v.* **-saled, -seling, -sels or -selled, -selling, -sels. 1. To give a handsel to. 2. To launch with a ceremonial gesture or gift. 3. To do or use for the first time. [ME *hanselle* < OE *handselen* and ON *handsal*, transfer.]**

hand-set (hānd'sēt') *n.* A portable telephone transmitter and receiver module.

hand-shake (hānd'shāk') *n.* The grasping of right hands by two people as in greeting or leave-taking.

hands-off (hāndz'ōf', -ōf') *adj.* Characterized by nonintervention: *a hands-off foreign policy*.

hand-some (hān'səm) *adj.* **-som-er, -som-est. 1. Pleasing and dignified in form or appearance. 2. Generous or copious: *a handsome reward*. 3. Marked by or requiring skill or dexterity: *did some handsome maneuvers on the skating rink*. 4. Appropriate or fitting. 5. Moderately large. [ME *hand-som*, handy.] —**hand-some-ly** *adv.* —**hand-some-ness** *n.***

hands-on (hāndz'ōn', -ōn') *adj.* Involving active participation; applied, as opposed to theoretical: *"We're involved in hands-on operations, pulling levers, pushing buttons"* (Arthur R. Taylor).

hand-spike (hānd'spīk') *n.* A bar used as a lever.

hand-spring (hānd'sprīng') *n.* A gymnastic feat in which the body is flipped completely forward or backward from an upright position, landing first on the hands, then on the feet.

hand-stand (hānd'stānd') *n.* The act of balancing on the hands with one's feet in the air.

hand-to-hand (hānd'tō-hānd') *adj.* Being at close quarters.

hand-to-mouth (hānd'tō-mouth') *adj.* Having or providing only the bare essentials.

hand-work (hānd'wŭrk') *n.* Work done by hand rather than by machine.

hand-woven (hānd'wō-vən) *adj.* 1. Woven on a hand-operated loom: *handwoven rugs*. 2. Woven by hand: *handwoven baskets*.

hand-writing (hānd'rīt-ing) *n.* 1. Writing done with the hand. 2. The writing characteristic of a particular person.

hand-y (hān'dē) *adj.* **-ier, -iest. 1. Skillful in using one's**



handlebar mustache



hand organ



handstand



hang glider

hands, esp. in a variety of ways. 2. Readily accessible. 3. Useful; convenient: *a handy gadget*. 4. Easy to use: *handle: a handy reference book*. [*< HAND*.] —**hand-y-man** also **handy man** (hān'dē-mān') *n.* One who does odd jobs or various small tasks.

hang (hāng) *v.* **hung** (hūng), **hang-ing, hangs.** —*tr.* 1. To fasten from above with no support from below; suspend. 2. To suspend or fasten so as to allow free movement at or about the point of suspension: *hang a door*. 3. *past tense* *hang* (a scythe to its handle). 5. To alter the hem of (a garment) so as to fall evenly at a specified height. 6. To furnish, decorate, or appoint by suspending objects around or about: *hang a room with curtains*. 7. To hold or incline downward; let droop: *hang one's head in sorrow*. 8. To fail to render a unanimous verdict. 10. *Baseball.* To throw (a pitch) in such a manner so as to fail to break. —*intr.* 1. To be attached from above with no support to break, suspended or poised over a place or object; hover. 4. To attach oneself as an impediment or dependent; cling. 5. To attach downward; droop. 6. To depend: *everything hangs on the committee's decision*. 7. To pay strict attention: *hang on every word*. 8. To remain unresolved or uncertain: *hang on the sure hung in the balance*. 9. To fit the body in loose lines: *a dress that hangs well*. 10. To be on display, as in a gallery. 11. *Baseball.* To fail to break or move in the intended way, as a curve ball. —**phrasal verbs.** **hang around.** 1. To spend time idly; loiter. 2. To keep company; consort. **hang back.** To be averse; hold back. **hang off.** To hold back; be averse. **hang on.** 1. To cling tightly to something. 2. To continue persistently; persevere. 3. To keep a telephone connection open. **hang onto.** To hold or cling tightly to. **hang out.** *Slang.* To spend one's free time in a certain place. **hang together.** 1. To stand united; stick together. 2. To constitute a coherent totality. **hang up.** 1. To suspend on a hook or hanger. 2. To replace (a telephone receiver) on its cradle. 3. To retard or impede; hinder: *hang up a project*. 4. To halt the movement or action of. 5. To end a telephone conversation. 6. To become halted or snagged. —*n.* 1. The way in which something hangs. 2. A downward inclination or slope. 3. Particular meaning or significance. 4. *Informal.* The proper method for doing, using, or handling something: *get the hang of it*. 5. A suspension of motion; slackening. —**idioms.** **give (or care) a hang.** To be concerned or anxious. **hang fire.** 1. To be slow in firing, as a gun. 2. To delay. **hang in there.** *Informal.* To persevere despite difficulties; persist. **hang loose.** *Slang.* To stay calm or relaxed. **hang tough.** *Informal.* To remain firmly resolved: *"We are going to hang tough on this"* (Donald T. Regan). **let it all hang out.** *Slang.* 1. To be completely relaxed. 2. To be completely candid. [ME *hongen*, partly < OE *hangian*, to hang, and partly < OE *hōn*, to hang.]

Usage: *Hang*, as the past tense and past participle of *hang*, is used in the sense of "put to death by hanging." In the following example *hung* would be unacceptable to a majority of the Usage Panel: *Frontier courts hung many a prisoner after a summary trial*. In all other senses of the word, *hung* is the preferred form as past tense and past participle.

han-gar (hāng'ər, hāng'gər) *n.* A structure esp. for housing or repairing aircraft. [Fr. < OFr., prob. < Med. Lat. *angarium*, shed for shoeing horses.]

hang-dog (hāng'dōg', -dōg') *adj.* 1. Shamefaced or guilty. 2. Downcast; intimidated. —*n.* A sneaky or despicable person.

hang-er (hāng'ər) *n.* 1. One that hangs. 2. A contrivance to which something hangs or by which something is hung. 3. A device around which a garment is draped for hanging from a hook or rod. 4. A loop or strap by which something is hung. 5. A bracket on an automobile's spring shackle designed to hold it to the chassis. 6. A decorative strip of cloth hung on a garment or wall.

hang-er-on (hāng'ər-ōn', -ōn') *n., pl. hang-ers-on* (hāng'ər-z-,) A sycophant; parasite.

hang glider *n.* A device resembling a kite from which a harnessed rider hangs while gliding from a height.

hang-ing (hāng'ing) *n.* 1. An execution. 3. A descending slope or inclination. —*adj.* 1. Situated on a sharp declivity. 2. Projecting downward; overhanging. 3. Suited for holding something that hangs. 4. *a.* Deserving death by hanging: *a hanging crime*. *b.* Disposed to inflict the sentence of death by hanging: *a hanging judge*.

hanging indentation *n.* The indentation of every line in a paragraph except the first.

hang-man (hāng'mān) *n.* One employed to execute condemned prisoners by hanging.

hang-nail (hāng'nāl') *n.* A small piece of dead skin at the side or the base of a fingernail that is partly detached from the rest of the skin. [Alteration of *AGNAIL*.]

hang-out (hāng'out') *n.* A frequently visited place.

hang-over (hāng'ō-vər) *n.* 1. Unpleasant physical effects following the heavy use of alcohol. 2. A letdown, as after a

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ā pat / ā pay / ār care / ā father / b bled / b bled / b bled / ē pet / ē be / f fife / g gag / h hat / hw which / ī pit / ī pie / īr pier / j judge / k kick / l lid, needle / m mum / n no, sudden / ng thing / ō pot / ō toe / ō paw, for / oi noise / ou out / ō took / ō bow

as certain insects. [Gk. *brakhupteros* : *brakhus*, short + *pteron*, wing.] —**brachypterism** (-tə-riz'm) *n.*

brachyuran (brāk'ē-yōō'rən) also **brachyural** (-əl) or **brachyurous** (-əs) *adj.* Of or belonging to the Brachyura, a group of crustaceans characterized by a short abdomen concealed under the cephalothorax and including the true crabs. —*n.* A member of the Brachyura. [*< NLat. Brachyura*, name suborder : Gk. *brakhus*, short + Gk. *oura*, tail.]

bracing (brā'sing) *adj.* Invigorating. —**bracingly** *adv.*
brack-en (brāk'en) *n.* 1. A fern, *Pteridium aquilinum*, having tough stems and branching, finely divided fronds. 2. An area overgrown with bracken. 3. A large, coarse fern. [ME *braken*, prob. of Scand. orig.]

brack-et (brāk'it) *n.* 1. A simple rigid structure in the shape of an L, one arm of which is fixed to a vertical surface, the other projecting horizontally to support a shelf or other weight. 2. A wall-anchored fixture adapted to support a load. 3. A small shelf or shelves supported by brackets. 4. *a.* Either of a pair of symbols, [], used to enclose written or printed material or to indicate a mathematical expression considered in some sense a single quantity. *b.* Either of a pair of symbols, < >, similarly used and in mathematics used esp. together to indicate the average of a contained quantity. *c.* *Math.* A brace (sense 12). 5. A classification or grouping, esp. of taxpayers according to income. 6. The space between two rounds of artillery, the first aimed beyond a target and the second aimed short of it, used to determine range. —*tr.v.* **-et-ed**, **-et-ing**, **-ets**. 1. To support with a bracket or brackets. 2. To place within or as if within brackets. 3. To classify or group together. 4. To fire beyond and short of (a target) in order to determine range. [OFr. *braguet*, codpiece, dim. of *brague*, breeches < OProv. *braga* < Lat. *bracae*.]

bracket fungus *n.* Any of various fungi that form shelflike growths on tree trunks and wood structures.

brack-ish (brāk'ish) *adj.* 1. Containing some salt; briny: *brackish water*. 2. Distasteful; unpalatable. [Du. *brak*.] —**brack'ish-ness** *n.*

bract (brākt) *n.* A leaflike plant part, usually small but sometimes showy and sometimes brightly colored, located either below a flower or on the stalk of a flower cluster. [NLat. *bractea* < Lat. gold leaf.] —**bract-eal** (brāk'tē-əl) *adj.*
bract-e-ate (brāk'tē-īt, -āt') *adj.* Bearing bracts. [NLat. *bracteatus* < *bractea*, gold leaf.]

bract-e-o-late (brāk'tē-ō-līt, -lāt') *adj.* Bearing bracteoles.
bract-e-ole (brāk'tē-ōl') *n.* A small or secondary bract. [NLat. *bracteola* < Lat., dim. of *bractea*, gold leaf.]

brad (brād) *n.* A tapered nail with a small head or a slight side projection instead of a head. [ME < ON *broddr*, spike.]
brad-awl (brād'ol') *n.* A small awl with a chisel edge, used to make holes in wood for brads or screws.

brady- *pref.* Slow: *bradycardia*. [NLat. < Gk. *bradus*, slow.]
brady-car-di-a (brād'ī-kār'dē-ə) *n.* Abnormally slow heart-beat, as less than 60 beats per minute. [BRADY- + Gk. *kardia*, heart.] —**brady-car-dic** (-dīk) *adj.*

brad-y-lex-i-a (brād'ī-lēk'sē-ə) *n.* A slowness of reading not attributable to lack of intelligence. [BRADY- + Gk. *lexis*, speech < *legein*, to speak.]

brad-y-lo-gia (brād'ā-lō'jā, -jē-ə) *n.* Abnormally slow speech. [NLat. : BRADY- + Gk. *-logia*, -logy.]

brae (brā) *n.* Scot. A hillside; slope. [ME *bra* < ON *brā*, eyelid.]

brag (brāg) *v.* **bragg-ed**, **brag-ging**, **brags**. —*intr.* To talk boastfully. —*tr.* To assert boastfully. —*n.* 1. Arrogant or boastful speech or manner. 2. Something boasted of. 3. A braggart; boaster. 4. A card game similar to poker. —*adj.* **brag-ger**, **brag-gest**. Exceptionally fine. [ME *braggen* < *brag*, ostentatious.] —**brag'ger** *n.*

brag-ga-do-ci-o (brāg'ā-dō'sē-ō', -shē-ō', -shō) *n., pl. -os*. 1. A braggart. 2. *a.* Empty or pretentious bragging. *b.* Swaggering manner; cockiness. [Alteration of *Braggadocchio*, the personification of vainglory in *The Fairie Queene* by Sir Edmund Spenser (1552–1599).]

Bragg angle (brāg) *n.* The angle between an incident x-ray beam and a set of crystal planes for which the secondary radiation displays maximum intensity as a result of constructive interference. [After William Henry Bragg (1862–1942) and William Lawrence Bragg (1890–1971).]

brag-gart (brāg'ärt) *n.* One given to loud, empty boasting; bragger. —*adj.* Boastful. [Fr. *bragard* < *braguer*, to brag, perh. < ME *braggen*.]

Bragg's law (brāgz) *n.* The fundamental law of x-ray crystallography, $n\lambda = 2d\sin\theta$, where n is an integer, λ is the wavelength of a beam of x rays incident on a crystal with lattice planes separated by distance d , and θ is the Bragg angle. [After William Henry Bragg (1862–1942) and William Lawrence Bragg (1890–1971).]

Brah-ma' (brā'mā) *n.* *Hinduism*. 1. The personification of divine reality in its creative aspect as a member of the Hindu triad. 2. Variant of *Brahman* (senses 1, 3). [Skt. *brahman*.]

Brah-ma' also **brah-ma** (brā'mā, brā'-) *n.* A large domestic fowl of a breed originating in Asia and having feathered legs. [After the *Brahmaputra* River in southern Asia.]

Brah-man (brā'mən) *n.* 1. Also *Brah-ma* (-mā). *Hinduism*. The essential divine reality of the universe; the eternal spirit

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from which all being originates and to which all returns.

2. Also *Brah-min* (-mīn). *Hinduism*. A member of the highest caste, originally composed of priests but now occupationally diversified. 3. Also *Brah-ma* (-mā) or *Brah-min* (-mīn). One of a breed of domestic cattle developed in the southern United States from stock originating in India and having a hump between the shoulders and a pendulous dewlap. [Skt.] —**Brah-man'ic** (-mā'n'ik), **Brah-man'ic-al** *adj.*

Brah-man-ism (brā'mā-niz'm) also **Brah-min-ism** (brā'mī-niz'm) *n.* 1. The religious practices and beliefs of ancient India as reflected in the Vedas, the earliest religious texts. 2. The social caste system of the Brahmins of India. —**Brah-man-ist** *n.*

Brah-min (brā'mīn) *n.* 1. A highly cultured and socially exclusive person, esp. a member of one of the old New England families. 2. Variant of *Brahman* (senses 2, 3). —**Brah-min'ic** (-mī'n'ik), **Brah-min'ic-al** *adj.*

Brah-min-ism (brā'mī-niz'm) *n.* 1. The attitude or conduct typical of a social or cultural elite. 2. Variant of *Brahmanism*.

braid (brād) *tr.v.* **braid-ed**, **braid-ing**, **braids**. 1. To interweave three or more strands of; plait. 2. To decorate or edge with an ornamental trim. 3. To produce by interweaving: *braid a rug*. 4. To fasten or decorate (hair) with a band or ribbon. —*n.* 1. A narrow length of fabric, hair, or other material that has been braided or plaited. 2. A thin, flat woven strip of cloth used for binding or decorating fabrics. 3. A ribbon or band used to fasten the hair. [ME *braiden* < OE *bregdan*, to weave.] —**braid'er** *n.*

braid-ed (brā'did) *adj.* Flowing in an interconnected network of channels: *a braided stream*.

braid-ing (brā'ding) *n.* Braided embroidery.

brail (brāl) *n.* A line used to furl loose-footed sails. —*tr.v.* **brailled**, **brail-ing**, **brails**. To gather in (a sail) with brails. [ME *brayle* < OFr. *brail*, belt < Med. Lat. *bracale* < Lat. *bracae*, breeches.]

Braille also **braille** (brāl) *n.* A system of writing and printing for the blind, in which varied arrangements of raised dots representing letters and numerals can be identified by touch. [After Louis Braille (1809–1852).]

brain (brān) *n.* 1. *a.* The portion of the central nervous system in the vertebrate cranium that is responsible for the interpretation of sensory impulses, the coordination and control of bodily activities, and the exercise of emotion and thought. *b.* A functionally similar portion of the invertebrate nervous system. 2. **brains**. Intellectual capacity. 3. *Informal*. A highly intelligent person. 4. Often **brains**. The supreme planner, as of a movement. 5. An automatic device, as a computer, that is central to a computation or control process. —*tr.v.* **brained**, **brain-ing**, **brains**. 1. To smash in the skull of. 2. *Slang*. To hit on the head. —*idioms*. on the brain. Obsessively in mind. **rack** (or **beat**) (one's) brains. To think as hard as one can. [ME < OE *brāgen*.]

brain case *n.* The brainpan.

brain child *n.* *Informal*. An original idea or plan attributed to a specific person or group.

brain coral *n.* Any of several corals of the genus *Meandrina*, forming rounded colonies that resemble the human brain.

brain death *n.* Death as evidenced by absence of central-nervous-system activity. —**brain'-dead** (brān'dēd) *adj.*

brain drain *n.* The emigration of professionals, as scientists or scholars, to countries that offer higher-paid positions and better living conditions.

brain-drain (brān'drān') *v.* **-drained**, **-drain-ing**, **-drains**. —*intr.* To emigrate to another country usually for a more highly paid position or better living conditions. —*tr.* To persuade (a scientist, for example) to brain-drain.

brain fever *n.* Encephalitis.

brain-less (brān'lis) *adj.* Devoid of intelligence; stupid. —**brain-less-ly** *adv.* —**brain'less-ness** *n.*

brain-pan (brān'pān') *n.* The part of the skull that contains the brain; cranium.

brain-pick-ing (brān'pīk'ing) *n.* The act of probing another's mind for information. —**brain-pick'er** *n.*

brain-power (brān'pou'ər) *n.* 1. Intellectual power or ability. 2. People with well-developed mental ability.

brain scanner *n.* A CAT scanner used to x-ray the brain. —**brain scan** *n.*

brain-sick (brān'sīk') *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or induced by insanity; mad. —**brain-sick'ly** *adv.* —**brain'sick-ness** *n.*

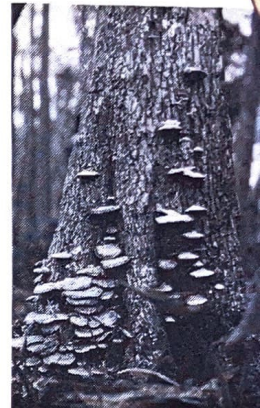
brain-stem (brān'stēm') *n.* The part of the brain consisting of the medulla oblongata, pons, and mesencephalon and connecting the spinal cord to the forebrain and cerebrum.
brain-storm (brān'stōrm') *n.* 1. A sudden and violent disturbance in the brain. 2. *a.* A sudden clever idea. *b.* A foolish idea.

brain-storm-ing (brān'stōr'ming) *n.* A method of shared problem-solving in which all members of a group spontaneously contribute ideas. —**brain'storm' v.** (**-stormed**, **-storm-ing**, **-storms**). —**brain'storm'er** *n.*

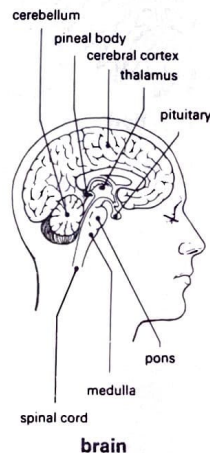
brains trust *n.* Chiefly Brit. A brain trust.

brain trust *n.* A group of experts who serve as unofficial advisers and policy planners, esp. in a government. —**brain truster** *n.*

brain-wash (brān'wōsh', -wōsh') *tr.v.* **-washed**, **-wash-ing**,



bracket fungus



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e or **E** (ē) *n.*, *pl.* **e's** or **E's**. 1. The fifth letter of the modern English alphabet. 2. Any of the speech sounds represented by the letter **e**. 3. Something like an **E** in shape. 4. **e** *Math*. The base of the natural system of logarithms, having a numerical value of approximately 2.718... 5. The fifth in a series. 6. **E** *Mus*. The third tone in the scale of C major. 7. A grade that indicates a student has failed to meet the standard for acceptable performance.

each (ēch) *adj.* Being one of two or more considered individually; every. —*pron.* Every one of a group considered individually; each one. —*adv.* For or to each one; apiece: *ten cents each*. [ME *ech* < OE *ælc*.]

Usage: When the subject of a sentence begins with *each*, it is traditionally held to be grammatically singular, and the verb and following pronouns must be singular as well: *Each of the pitchers has (not have) his (not their) good curve ball*. When *each* follows a plural subject, however, the verb and following pronouns generally remain in the plural: *The boys each have their jobs to do*. The expression *each and every* is likewise followed by a singular verb and singular pronouns in formal style: *Each and every driver knows what his or her job is supposed to be*. —See also **Usage** note at **everyone**.

each other *pron.* Each the other. Used to indicate a reciprocal relationship or action.

Usage: According to some traditional grammarians, *each other* is used of two, *one another* of more than two. This distinction has been ignored by many of the best writers, however, and a majority of the Usage Panel finds these examples acceptable: *The four partners regarded each other with suspicion*. *A husband and wife should confide in one another*. When speaking of an ordered series of events or stages, only *one another* can be used: *The Caesars exceeded one another (not each other) in cruelty* means that each Caesar was crueler than the last. • *Each other* cannot be used as the subject of a clause in formal writing. Instead of *we know what each other are thinking*, one should write *each of us knows what the other is thinking*. Instead of *the men know that each other are coming*, write *each of the men knows that the other is coming*. Instead of *we are all each other has*, write *each of us is all the other has*. • The possessive forms of *each other* and *one another* are written *each other's* and *one another's*: *The boys wore each other's (not each others') coats*. They had forgotten *one another's* (not *one anothers' names*).

eager (ē'gər) *adj.* —*er*, —*est*. 1. Intensely desirous of something; impatiently expectant: *an eager search for a familiar face in the crowd*. 2. Obs. Tart; sharp; cutting. —See **Usage** note at **anxious**. [ME *eager* < OFr. *aigre*, sharp < Lat. *acer*.] —**ea'gerly** *adv.* —**ea'ger-ness** *n.*

Synonyms: *eager, avid, keen, anxious, earnest, fervid, zealous*. These adjectives describe a condition of mind marked by great interest, desire, or concern, or a manifestation of such a condition. *Eager* primarily suggests strong interest or desire. *Avid*, an intensification of *eager*, implies enthusiasm and unbounded craving. *Keen* suggests acuteness or intensity of interest or emotional drive. *Anxious* applies to interest or desire tinged by concern or fear. *Earnest* stresses seriousness of purpose and sincerity of motivation. *Fervid* emphasizes intensity of interest or desire, expressed in behavior that may be compulsive or overwrought. *Zealous* makes an even stronger implication of unbridled enthusiasm or concern, sometimes verging on fanaticism and unrestrained behavior.

eager (ē'gər, ā'-) *n.* Variant of **eagle**.

eager beaver *n.* Informal. An excessively industrious or zealous person.

eagle (ē'gəl) *n.* 1. Any of various large birds of prey of the family Accipitridae, including members of the genera *Aquila* and *Haliaeetus*, or characterized by a powerful hooked bill, long broad wings, and strong, soaring flight. 2. A representation of an eagle used as an emblem or insignia. 3. A former gold coin of the United States having a face value of ten dollars. 4. A golf score of two below par on a hole. [ME *egle* < OFr. < Lat. *aquila*.]

eagle-eyed (ē'gəl-id') *adj.* Having keen eyesight.

eagle owl *n.* A large Eurasian owl, *Bubo bubo*, having brownish plumage and prominent ear tufts.

Eagle Scout *n.* One who has achieved the highest rank in the Boy Scouts.

ea-glet (ē'glit) *n.* A young eagle.

ea-gre also **ea-gre** (ē'gər, ā'-) *n.* Bore. [Orig. unknown.]

eal-dor-man (ēl'dər-mən) *n.* The chief magistrate of a district in Anglo-Saxon England. [OE. —see **ALDERMAN**.]

—**ean** *suffix*. Variant of —**ian**.

ear (īr) *n.* 1. *Anat. a.* The vertebrate organ of hearing, responsible, in general, for maintaining equilibrium as well as sensing sound, and divided in man into the external ear, the middle ear, and the internal ear. *b.* The part of this organ that is externally visible. 2. An organ analogous to the mammalian ear in invertebrates. 3. The sense of hearing. 4. Keenness of hearing. 5. Sympathetic or favorable attention. 6. Something resembling the external ear in position or shape, esp.: *a.* One of the tufts of feathers on the head of certain birds. *b.* A projecting handle, as on a vase or pitcher. 7. A small box that appears in the upper corner of the page in a periodical, such as a newspaper and often

contains an advertisement or weather information. —*Idiom.* *all ears*. Acutely attentive: *If you want to tell your story, we're all ears*. *give (or lend) an ear*. To pay close attention to. *have (or keep) an ear to the ground*. To give attention to or watch for trends or coming events. *In one ear and out the other*. Heard but without influence or effect. *on one ear*. Without reference to a score. *play it by ear*. To improvise. *up to one's (or the) ears*. Deeply involved: *up to one's ears in debt*. [ME *ere* < OE *ēare*.] —**ear-less** *adj.*

ear (īr) *n.* The seed-bearing spike of a cereal plant, such as corn. —*intr.v.* **eared, ear-ing, ears**. To form or grow ears. [ME *ere* < OE *ær*.]

ear-ache (īr'āk') *n.* An ache in the ear.

ear-drop (īr'drɒp') *n.* An earring, esp. one with a pendent ornament.

ear-drum (īr'drʌm') *n.* *Anat.* The tympanic membrane.

eared (īrd) *adj.* 1. Having ears or earlike projections.

2. Having a specified kind or number of ears: *a lop-eared puppy*.

eared seal *n.* Any of various seals of the family Otariidae, which includes the sea lions and fur seals, characterized by external ears, earlike front flippers, and hind flippers that can be turned forward for walking on land.

ear-flap (īr'flap') *n.* A flap that is attached to a cap and may be turned down to cover the ears.

ear-ful (īr'fʊl') *n.* 1. A flow of information or gossip. 2. A scolding or reprimand.

ear-ling (īr'liŋ) *n.* A short line attaching an upper corner of a sail to the yard. [Perh. < **EAR**.]

earl (ūrl) *n.* A British peer next in rank above a viscount and below a marquess. [ME *erl*, nobleman of high rank < OE *eorl*.]

ear-lap (īr'lāp') *n.* An earlap.

earl-dom (ūrl'dəm) *n.* 1. The rank or title of an earl. 2. The territory of an earl. [ME *erldom* < OE *eorl-dōm*.]

earless seal *n.* Any of various seals of the family Phocidae, which includes the hair seals, characterized by the lack of external ears, short fore flippers, and reduced hind flippers specialized for swimming.

ear lobe *n.* The soft, fleshy tissue at the lowest portion of the external ear.

early (ūrlī) *adj.* —*li-er*, —*li-est*. 1. Near the beginning of a given series, period of time, or course of events. 2. Belonging to a distant or remote period of time; primitive. 3. Occurring, developing, or appearing before the expected or usual time. 4. Occurring in the near future. —*adv.* 1. Near the beginning of a given series, period of time, or course of events. 2. Far back in time. 3. Before the expected or usual time. [ME *erli* < *ēr*, before, soon < OE *ær* and ON *ār*.] —**earl-iness** *n.*

early bird *n.* 1. A person who arises early. 2. One who arrives early or before others.

early on *adv.* At or during an early stage: *The new program developed problems early on*.

ear-mark (īr'mārk') *n.* 1. An identifying mark on the ear of a domestic animal. 2. An identifying feature or characteristic.

—*tr.v.* **marked, mark-ing, marks**. 1. To mark the ear of (a domestic animal) for identification. 2. To place an identifying or distinctive mark on. 3. To reserve or set aside for a particular purpose: *We earmarked the merchandise for special customers*.

ear-muff (īr'muf') *n.* Either of a pair of ear coverings often attached to an adjustable headband and worn to protect esp. against the cold.

earn (ūrn) *tr.v.* **earned, earn-ing, earns**. 1. To gain esp. for the performance of service, labor, or work. 2. *a.* To acquire as a result of effort or action: *earned the disapproval of his peers*. *b.* To make worthy of. 3. To produce as return or profit. [ME *ernen* < OE *earnian*.] —**earn-er** *n.*

earn (ūrn) *intr.v.* **earned, earn-ing, earns**. *Obs.* To yearn. [Var. of **EARN**.]

earn-est (īr'nist) *adj.* 1. Marked by or showing deep sincerity or seriousness: *an earnest gesture of good will*. 2. Of an important or weighty nature; grave. —*Idiom.* *in earnest*. With a purposeful or serious intent. [ME *ernest* < OE *eornoste*.] —**earn-estly** *adv.* —**earn-est-ness** *n.*

earn-est (ūr'nist) *n.* 1. Money paid in advance as part payment to bind a contract or bargain. 2. A token of something to come; promise or assurance. [ME *ernest* < OFr. *erres*, pl. of *erre*, pledge < Lat. *arra*, short for *arrabo* < Gk. *arrabōn* < Heb. *ērābhōn* < *ārābh*, he pledged.]

earn-ings (ūr'nīŋz) *pl.n.* Something earned, esp.: *a.* The salary or wages of a person. *b.* The profits of a business enterprise. *c.* Gains from investment.

earphone (īr'fōn) *n.* A device that converts electric signals, as from a telephone or radio receiver, to audible sound and that fits over or in the ear.

ear-ring (īr'riŋ, īr'riŋ) *n.* An ornament worn on or pendent from the ear lobe.

ear rot *n.* Any of various fungus diseases of corn characterized by decay and molding of the ears.

ear shell *n.* The shell of the abalone.

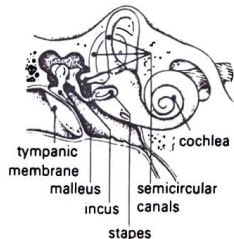
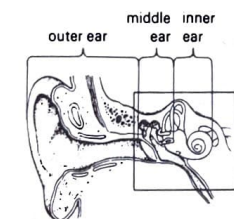
ear-shot (īr'shɒt') *n.* The range within which sound can be heard; hearing distance.

ear-split-ting (īr'split'ŋ) *adj.* Loud and shrill enough to hurt the ears.

earth (ūrth) *n.* 1. *a.* The land surface of the world, as distin-



eagle
Golden eagle



ear
The human ear



earphone

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counterproposal (koun'tar-prə-pə'zəl) *n.* A proposal offered to nullify or substitute for a previous one.

counterpunch (koun'tar-punch) *n.* A countering attack or blow, esp. a counter in boxing.

counter-reformation (koun'tar-rēfər-mā'shən) *n.* A reformation in opposition to previous reformation.

Counter Reformation *n.* A reform movement within the Roman Catholic Church in response to the Protestant Reformation.

counter-revolution (koun'tar-rēv'olū'shən) *n.* A movement arising in opposition to a revolution and aiming to restore the prerevolutionary state. —**counter-revolutionary** (-shə-nēr'ē) *adj. & n.* —**counter-revolutionist** (-lōn-ist) *n.*

counter-shaft (koun'tar-shāft) *n.* An intermediate shaft between the powered and driven shafts in a belt drive.

counter-sign (koun'tar-sīn) *tr.v.* -signed, -signing, -signs. To sign (a previously signed document), as for authentication. —*n.* 1. A second or confirming signature, as on a previously signed document. 2. *a.* A secret sign or signal to be given to a sentry in order to obtain passage; password. *b.* A secret sign or signal given in answer to another. —**counter-signature** (-sīg'nā-chər) *n.*

counter-sink (koun'tar-sīngk) *n.* 1. A hole with the top part enlarged so that a screw or bolthead will lie flush with or below the surface. 2. A tool for making a countersink. —*tr.v.* -sunk (-sūngk'), -sinking, -sinks. 1. To make a countersink on or in. 2. To drive a screw or bolt into (a countersink).

counter-spy (koun'tar-spī) *n.* A spy working in opposition to enemy espionage.

counter-stain (koun'tar-stān) *n.* A stain of a contrasting color used in addition to a principal stain that colors the components in a microscopic specimen that are not made visible by the principal stain.

counter-sunk (koun'tar-sūngk) *v.* Past tense and past participle of **countersink**.

counter-tenor (koun'tar-tēn'ər) *n.* 1. An adult male voice with a range above that of tenor. 2. A singer with a counter-tenor voice.

counter-vail (koun'tar-vāl', koun'tar-vāl) *v.* -valled, -vailing, -vails. —*tr.* 1. To act against with equal force; counteract. 2. To compensate for; offset. —*intr.* To act against an often detrimental influence or power. [ME *countrevailen* < OFr. *contrevaloir*: *contre*, counter- + *valoir*, to be worth < *valere*, to be strong.]

counter-weight (koun'tar-wā) *intr. & tr.v.* -weighed, -weighing, -weighs. To counterbalance or cause to counterbalance.

counter-weight (koun'tar-wāt) *n.* A weight used as a counterbalance. —**counter-weighted** (-wāt'id) *adj.*

counter word *n.* A word, as *nice* or *awful*, commonly used without regard to its precise meaning.

countess (koun'tīs) *n.* 1. *a.* In various European countries, the wife or widow of a count. *b.* In Great Britain, the wife or widow of an earl. 2. A woman holding the title of count or earl in her own right. [ME *countes* < OFr. *contesse*, fem. of *conte*, count. —see **COUNT**.]

counting house also **counting-house** (koun'tīng-hous') *n.* An office in which a business firm carries on operations such as accounting and correspondence.

counting room *n.* A counting house.

count-less (koun'tlis) *adj.* Too numerous to be counted; infinite; innumerable. —**count-less-ly** *adv.*

count noun *n.* A noun, such as *chair* or *pea*, that can form a plural and that can occur in a noun phrase construction with the indefinite article, with such terms as *many*, or with numerals.

count palatine *n.* A palatine¹ (sense 3).

country-fied also **country-fied** (kūn'trī-fīd') *adj.* 1. Resembling or having the characteristics of country life; rural; rustic. 2. Lacking in sophistication.

country (kūn'trē) *n., pl. -tries.* 1. A large tract of land distinguishable by features of topography, biology, or culture. 2. A district outside of cities and towns; rural area. 3. *a.* A nation or state. *b.* The territory of a nation or state; land. *c.* The people of a nation or state; populace. 4. The land of a person's birth or citizenship. 5. *Law.* A jury. —**modifier:** *country life.* [ME *countre* < OFr. *contree* < LLat. *contrata* < Lat. *contra*, opposite.]

country and western *n.* Country music.

country club *n.* A suburban club with facilities for golf and other outdoor sports and social activities.

country cousin *n.* One whose ingenuousness or rustic ways may embarrass or amuse city dwellers.

country-dance (kūn'trē-dāns') *n.* A folk dance of English origin in which two lines of dancers face each other.

country-fied (kūn'trī-fīd') *adj.* Variant of **countryfied**.

country gentleman *n.* 1. The owner of a country estate. 2. Often **Country Gentleman**. A variety of corn with small, sweet white kernels.

country-man (kūn'trē-mən) *n.* 1. A person from one's own country; compatriot. 2. A person from a particular country. 3. One who lives in the country; rustic.

country music *n.* A style of popular music based on folk music of the rural United States, esp. of the southern or southwestern United States.

country-seat (kūn'trē-sēt') *n.* An estate or mansion in the country.

country-side (kūn'trē-sīd') *n.* 1. A rural region. 2. The inhabitants of a countryside.

country-woman (kūn'trē-wōm'ən) *n.* 1. A woman from one's own country; compatriot. 2. A woman from a particular country. 3. A woman who lives in the country.

county (koun'tē) *n., pl. -ties.* 1. In the United States, an administrative subdivision of a state. 2. In Great Britain, Ireland, and a territorial division exercising administrative, judicial, and political functions. 3. The people living in a county. 4. The territory under the jurisdiction of a county. [ME *counte*, territorial division < AN *comite* < OFr. *conte*, the territory of a count < Med. Lat. *comitatus* < OFr. *comitatus* < Lat. *comes*, companion.]

county palatine *n.* The domain of a count palatine.

county seat *n.* A town or city that is the center of government in its county.

county town *n.* Chiefly *Brit.* A county seat.

coup (kōp) *n., pl. coups* (kōz). 1. A brilliantly executed stratagem; masterstroke. 2. A coup d'état. [Fr. *stroke* < OFr. < LLat. *colpus* < Lat. *colaphus* < Gk. *kolaphos*.]

coup de grâce (kōp' də grās') *n.* 1. A death blow or finishing stroke delivered to end the misery of someone who is mortally wounded. 2. A finishing or decisive event or act. [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *grace*, mercy.]

coup de main (kōp' də mǎn') *n.* A sudden action undertaken to surprise an enemy. [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *main*, hand.]

coup d'état (kōp' də tā') *n.* A sudden overthrow of a government by a group of persons in or previously in positions of authority in deliberate violation of constitutional forms. [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *état*, state.]

coup de théâtre (kōp' də tā-ā-trā) *n.* An unexpected and dramatic event, esp. one that overturns a given situation. [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *théâtre*, theatre.]

coup d'oeil (kōp' də œy') *n.* A quick survey; glance. [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *oeil*, eye.]

coupe (kōp) *n.* 1. *a.* A dessert of ice cream or fruit-flavored ice, variously garnished and served in a special dessert glass. *b.* The stemmed glass in which a coupe is served. 2. A shallow, bowl-shaped dessert dish. [Fr., *cup* < LLat. *cuppa*.]

coupe (kōp) *n.* Variant of **coupe** (sense 2).

coupé (kōp-pā') *n.* 1. A closed four-wheel carriage with two seats inside and one outside. 2. Also **coupe** (kōp). A closed two-door automobile. [Fr. < *p.* part. of *couper*, to cut < *couper*, blow. —see **COUP**.]

couple (kūp'əl) *n.* 1. Two items of the same kind; pair. 2. Something that joins or connects two things together; link. 3. (used with a *sing.* or *pl. verb.*) *a.* A man and woman united, as by marriage or betrothal. *b.* Two people together. 4. A few; several: *a couple of days.* 5. *Physics.* A pair of forces of equal magnitude acting in parallel but opposite directions, capable of causing rotation but not translation. —*v.* -pled, -pling, -ples. —*tr.* 1. To link together; connect: *coupled her refusal with an explanation.* 2. *a.* To join as man and wife; marry. *b.* To join in sexual union. 3. *Elect.* To link (two circuits or currents) as by magnetic induction. —*intr.* 1. To form pairs; join. 2. To copulate. 3. To join chemically. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *copula*, bond.]

Synonyms: *couple, pair, duo, brace, yoke.* These nouns denote two of something in association. *Couple* refers to two of the same kind or sort not necessarily closely associated, though often it does apply to close relationship. Less formally the term may mean "few." *Pair* stresses close association and often reciprocal dependence of things (as in the case of gloves or pajamas). Sometimes it denotes a single thing with interdependent parts (such as shears or spectacles). *Duo* refers to partners in a duet. *Brace* refers principally to certain game birds, and *yoke* to two joined draft animals.

Usage: *Couple*, when referring to a man and woman together, may be used with either a singular or a plural verb, but the plural is more common. Whatever the choice, usage should be consistent: *the couple are spending their honeymoon* (or *is spending its honeymoon*).

coupler (kūp'lər) *n.* 1. One that couples. 2. A device for coupling two railroad cars. 3. A device connecting two organ keyboards so that they may be played together.

couplet (kūp'līt) *n.* 1. A unit of verse consisting of two successive lines, usually rhyming and having the same meter. 2. Two similar things; pair. [OFr., dim. of *couple*, couple.]

coupling (kūp'ling) *n.* 1. The act of forming couples. 2. The act of copulating. 3. Something that links or connects, as a railroad coupler. 4. The part of the body connecting the hindquarters and forequarters of a four-footed animal.

coupon (kōp'pōn', kyōō'-) *n.* 1. A negotiable certificate attached to a bond that represents a sum of interest due. 2. *a.* A detachable part, as of a ticket or advertisement, that entitles the bearer to certain benefits, such as a cash refund or a gift. *b.* A printed form, as in an advertisement, that is used as an order blank or for requesting information. 3. A detachable slip calling for periodic payments, as for merchandise bought on an installment plan. [Fr. < OFr. *colpon*, piece cut off < *colper*, to cut < *coup*, blow. —see **COUP**.]



coupé



coupler